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ABSTRACT

This presentation of basic rules, principles and assumptions underlying the use of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd edition (AACR2) covers aspects of AACR2 which are easily overlooked, with emphasis on descriptive cataloging. The paper expands upon the following comments: (1) AACR2 is not intended for any specific type of library; (2) British spelling is used in the AACR2 publication itself; (3) AACR2 allows flexibility by use of alternative and optional rules, provision of three acceptable levels of document description, allowance for more judgmental decisions by catalogers, and provision for use of different style formats; (4) organization differs in the AACR2 and AACR1 publications; (5) changes from AACR1 occur in use of description areas and rule numbering, application of International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD), and utilization of allowable sources of cataloging information; (6) use of the General Material Designation (GMD) for type of material differs in America and Britain; (7) AACR2 examples are an improvement on those in AACR1; and (8) AACR2 changes the treatment of reproductions, e.g., microform reproductions of printed works. The conclusion to the paper provides a brief discussion of modifications to AACR2. (Author/ESR)

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AACR2 -- AN INTRODUCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE

BY

JERRY D. SAYE

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AACR2 - AN INTRODUCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE

INTRODUCTION. The publication of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition[1] (AACR2) in late 1978 can be considered to be a benchmark event in the course of librarianship in the second half of the twentieth century. Its publication was preceded by considerable anxiety and apprehension on the part of many librarians. This anxiety was forcefully expressed in articles, letters to the editor, library conferences and workshops in which librarians expressed their fears of the effects that AACR2 implementation would have upon their catalogs, services, and budgets. Over 2 years have now elapsed since AACR2's publication and the volume of rhetoric has died down and confrontation with the reality of the existence of the Code has begun to take place. Librarians across this country have begun to read, learn, and apply the specifics of the Code. Dozens of articles and books have appeared in the past year or two which have highlighted specific rule changes and discussed how these changes will affect libraries. Most of these writings have concentrated almost exclusively upon changes in the choice of access points and on the choice and form of the headings for these access points. Most of this AACR2 literature has not addressed, or has superficially addressed, the conditions and operational foundations and understandings under which the Code operates. This AACR2 literature has also not addressed in detail the problems which catalogers have encountered in trying to interpret what the Code actually intended as the end product of a specific rule. The purpose of this paper is to present some of these conditions and operational foundations and understandings which will enable catalogers preparing to use AACR2 to have a clearer understanding of these aspects. Due to both time and space limitations no effort will be made to be totally comprehensive in the coverage of these aspects.

AUDIENCE. AACR2, unlike any of its precedessors, is not a compilation of cataloging rules intended to provide for the needs of a specific type of library. This is made apparent when one compares the statements on this point in both AACR2 and its immediate predecessor. The 1967 Anglo-American Cataloging Rules[2] (AACR1) stated: "These rules have been drawn up primarily to respond to the needs of general research libraries."[3] AACR2 on the other hand has a far different intended audience: "These rules are designed for use in the construction of catalogues and other lists in general libraries of all sizes."[4] This absence of a specific type of library as the intended user of the Code allows AACR2 a far greater degree of flexibility in providing for both description and bibliographic access to a document. This flexibility though does require a greater degree of judgement on the part of the cataloger than have previous cataloging codes.

SPELLING. One example of the Anglo-American aspect of the Code is the use of variant spelling. The provisions for spelling in AACR2 follow the spelling standards in Webster's Third New International Dictionary.[5] When a word has both a British and American spelling provided in Webster's, the Code consistantly uses the British spelling. This practice is first apparent when one examines the spelling of the word "cataloguing", rather than the American spelling "cataloging", on the cover and title page of the AACR2. While this form of spelling may be viewed as a curiosity similar to the simplified spelling provisions in various editions of the Dewey Decimal Classification it can have a more subtle influence in other parts of the Code. The use of the alternative British spelling is applied in both rules and examples of rules. Thus in the chapter on the cataloging of sound recordings (Chapter 6) Rule 6.7B11 provides an example in which the location of program notes is recorded. In this example the word "program" utilizes the British alternative spelling "programme". A cataloger should be cautioned that the use of British rather than American spelling is totally optional with the individual cataloging agency.

ALTERNATIVE AND OPTIONAL RULES. The flexibility of AACR2 is further evidenced by the presence of both alternative and optional rules. "Alternative" rules operate in AACR2 in the same manner as they did in AACR1. Rule 22.3C2 is an example of a rule which has an "alternative" rule provision. Rule 22.3C2 instructs the cataloger to write the name of a person written in a non-Roman script and entered under surname in a romanized form using a chosen romanization table. The "alternative" rule to 22.3C2 is introduced in a footnote and allows the cataloging agency to write the name in a romanized form which has been "well-established in English reference source" on a language-by-language basis. When 22.3C2 is applied the name Jamāl 'Abd al-Nāsir would be used while the "alternative" rule would provide the same name as Gamal Abdel Nasser a far more common form. A local cataloging agency will have to decide which of these 2 rules to use and then follow that decision consistantly. This same type of decision would have to be made for each alternative rule encountered.

Optional rules, labelled "optional additions", are somewhat different from "alternative" rules. An "alternative" rule provides for the use of one rule in place of another. An "optional addition" is a rule that has its own rule number, stands alone, and does not replace another rule. It allows a cataloger to selectively apply a rule in some, all, or no instances. Rule 1.4F5 is an example of an "optional addition" rule. In general AACR2 prefers publication dates over other types of dates. Rule 1.4F5 allows a cataloger to provide the copyright date in addition to the publication date if the 2 dates differ. This could be done for some documents, all documents, or selectively on a case-by-case basis. This rule could also be applied based on the format of the document.

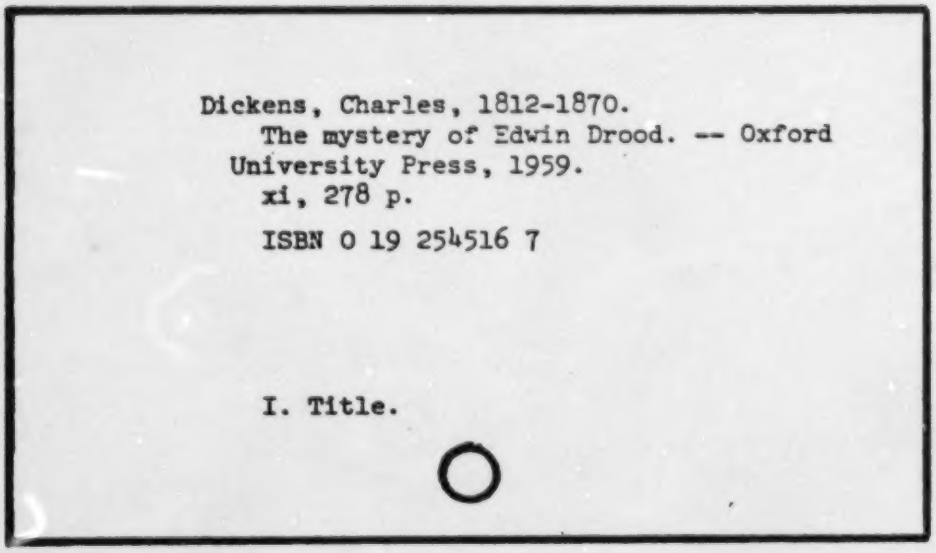
Another type of optional rule is introduced by the term "optionally". These "optionally" statements are not individually numbered rules but are appended to existing rules and provide for a further application of a rule beyond that stated in the basic rule. Rule 1.4F8 states that for multipart works which are not yet complete only the earliest date is given and is followed by a hyphen and 4 spaces. The "optionally" statement to this rule allows a cataloger to complete the date when the item is complete. The decision to apply this option is left to the discretion of the cataloger or the cataloging agency. The use of the "alternative" rules, "optional addition" rules and "optionally" provisions allow for a greater degree of flexibility in the detail and usability of catalog records than have previous codes.

The Library of Congress has issued a list of when and how they will apply various "alternative" and "optional" rules. These decisions have appeared most recently in an issue of the Cataloging Service Bulletin[6] of the Library of Congress. An examination of this list of decisions reveals that in many instances LC will apply particular options on a case-by-case basis. The importance of the Cataloging Service Bulletin to catalogers using AACR2 cannot be overemphasized. This quarterly publication provides L C interpretations of the rules, new forms for headings, and other information useful in the use of AACR2. It should continue to be of permanent reference value to catalogers for years.

LEVELS OF DESCRIPTION. Another example of the flexibility of AACR2 is in the provision of varying levels of detail for the description of a document. Many catalogers in the past who worked in libraries where patrons did not require the degree of detail in cataloging that a research library's patrons required, none the less often felt a bit guilty about modifying the description standards in AACR1 and previous codes. This modified, sometimes uncharitably termed "substandard" cataloging, was frequently frowned upon by other libraries and networks. AACR2 attempts to remedy this problem by providing three acceptable levels of description.

These levels, described in Sections 1.0D1 to 1.0D3, are minimum description requirements and can be expanded to meet the specific needs of an institution or a document. Of course, one need not supply a required element of information if the document being described does not possess the element. A cataloger can now sleep with a clear conscience when providing a description for a document which has less detail than that required by a research library. Additionally, libraries can now vary the level of detail for different formats of material. Thus a library might catalog printed monographs using Level 2 and use Level 1 for various type of audiovisual materials, cartographic materials and serials. The Library of Congress recently announced that it intends to catalog serials using an "augmented first level of description."[7] Figures 1, 2 and 3 reveal the differences in detail of Level 1, 2 and 3 descriptions for The Mystery of Edwin Drood, by Charles Dickens. One could add other elements to the minimum Level 1 description and still operate in Level 1.

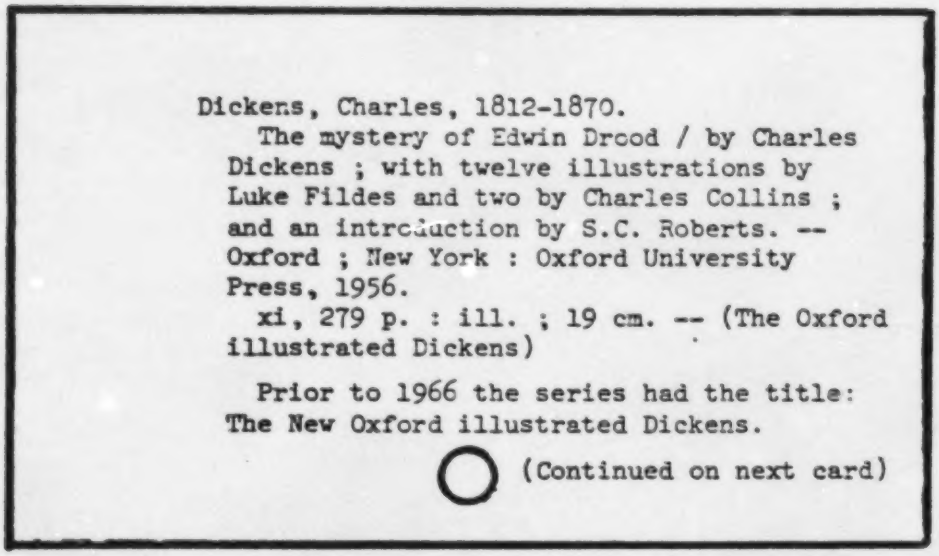
Figure 1



Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870.
The mystery of Edwin Drood. -- Oxford University Press, 1959.
xi, 278 p.
ISBN 0 19 254516 7

I. Title.

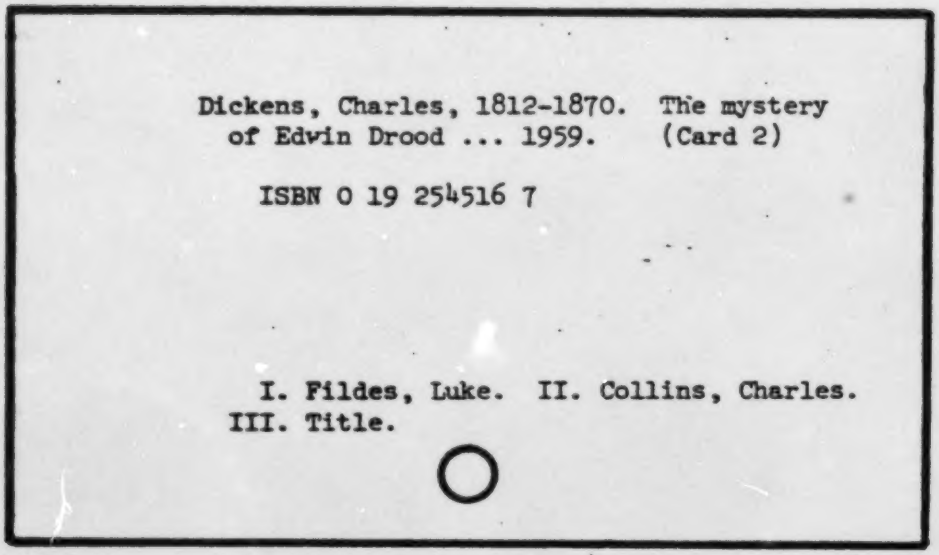
Figure 2



Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870.
The mystery of Edwin Drood / by Charles Dickens ; with twelve illustrations by Luke Fildes and two by Charles Collins ; and an intrcduction by S.C. Roberts. -- Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press, 1956.
xi, 279 p. : ill. ; 19 cm. -- (The Oxford illustrated Dickens)

Prior to 1966 the series had the title: The New Oxford illustrated Dickens.

(Continued on next card)

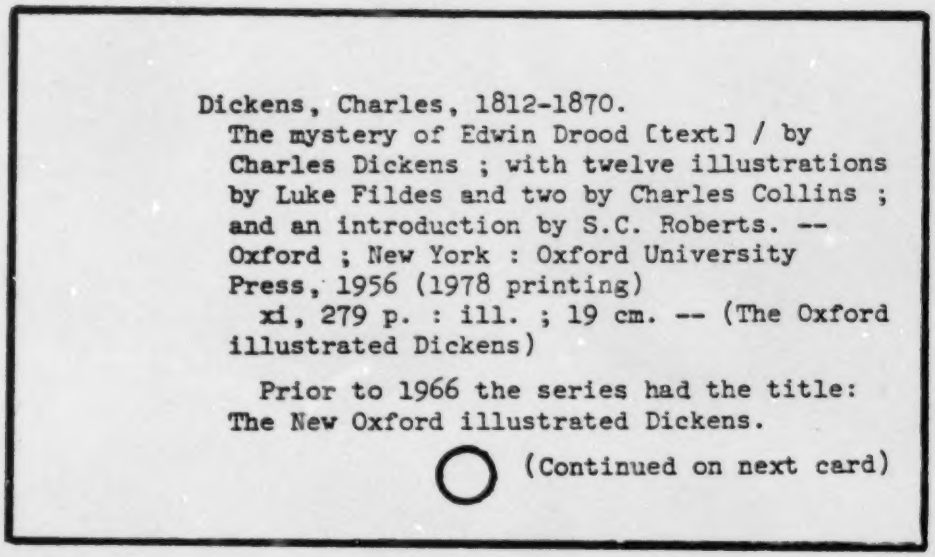


Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870. The mystery of Edwin Drood ... 1959. (Card 2)

ISBN 0 19 254516 7

I. Fildes, Luke. II. Collins, Charles. III. Title.

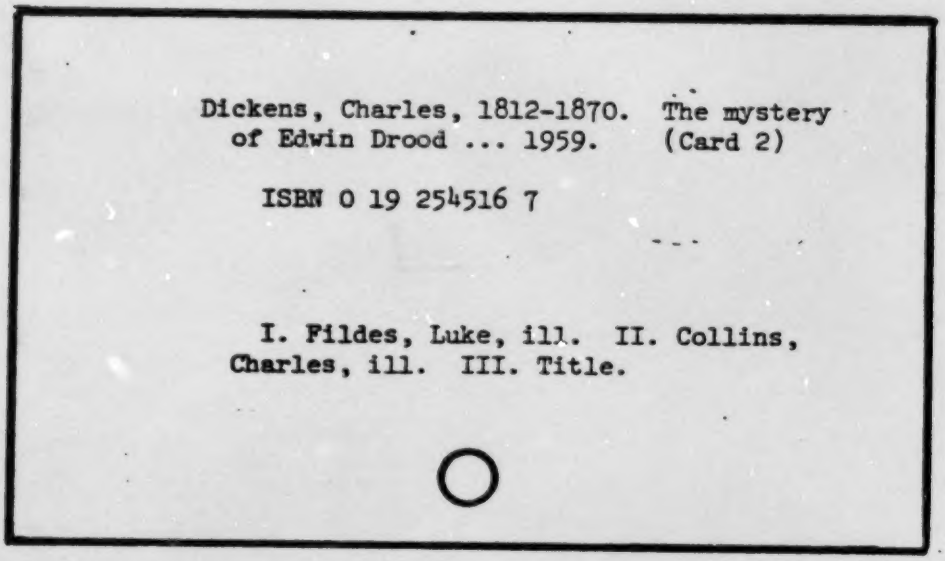
Figure 3



Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870.
The mystery of Edwin Drood [text] / by Charles Dickens ; with twelve illustrations by Luke Fildes and two by Charles Collins ; and an introduction by S.C. Roberts. -- Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press, 1956 (1978 printing)
xi, 279 p. : ill. ; 19 cm. -- (The Oxford illustrated Dickens)

Prior to 1966 the series had the title: The New Oxford illustrated Dickens.

(Continued on next card)



Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870. The mystery of Edwin Drood ... 1959. (Card 2)

ISBN 0 19 254516 7

I. Fildes, Luke, ill. II. Collins, Charles, ill. III. Title.

One note of caution must be given to any library considering cataloging at Level 1. The use of a minimum amount of description may have an impact upon the access points available for a document. Rule 21.29F in AACR2 requires that all entries for a document must be named somewhere on the catalog record's description. The utilization of a Level 1 description can thus affect the added entries which can be made. because of the reduced description unless notes are added. A cataloger would have to provide a statement of responsibility, or at least note the name of the illustrator for Edwin Drood, in order to be able to provide an access point for him. While a reduced level of description may be attractive to some libraries, especially for the cataloging of their non-book materials, it does have the potential of seriously limiting the selection of access points for these materials.

JUDGEMENT. Previous American cataloging codes were highly rigid in their provision for the application of rules. AACR2 however, frequently uses such statements as: "if needed", "if appropriate", and "if required". Frequently no guidelines are given to the cataloger as to how, or when, some rules should, or should not, be applied. Instead a cataloger is required to draw upon previous cataloging experience and knowledge of the needs of catalog users to make these decisions. There is a provision in some rules for action to be taken if the cataloger is "in doubt". These "in doubt" statements may aid the experienced cataloger but can also become a "crutch" for beginning catalogers and students who do not have a wealth of bibliographic and cataloging experience and whom may in fact use the "in doubt" provisions excessively or inappropriately because of inexperience. Such a problem could occur with Rule 1.2B3. This rule allows a cataloger, who is in doubt as to whether a particular statement is an edition statement, to use the presence of the words "edition", "version" and "issue" as evidence that the statement is in fact an edition statement. An inexperienced cataloger might readily take all such statements as edition statements rather than rigorously evaluate their actual nature. It could easily result in series statements (Harper Torchbook edition) and publishers imprints (Bison Books edition) being inappropriately as recorded edition statements.

CATALOGING STYLE. The use of the University of Chicago Press Manual of Style[8] as a style manual in AACR2 is a change from the use of the GPO Style Manual[9] in AACR1. AACR2 has a provision for the use of different formats for the presentation of cataloging data. One format, (Figure 4), which utilizes multiple paragraphs, is the format which has been traditionally used on catalog cards. Another format, (Figure 5), utilizes one large paragraph which begins with the main entry heading and ends with the last note or standard number. In this format all areas of information are separated by a space, long dash, space. One other format, (Figure 6), utilizes this same large block format except that the main entry heading appears on a separate line above the block paragraph.

Figure 4

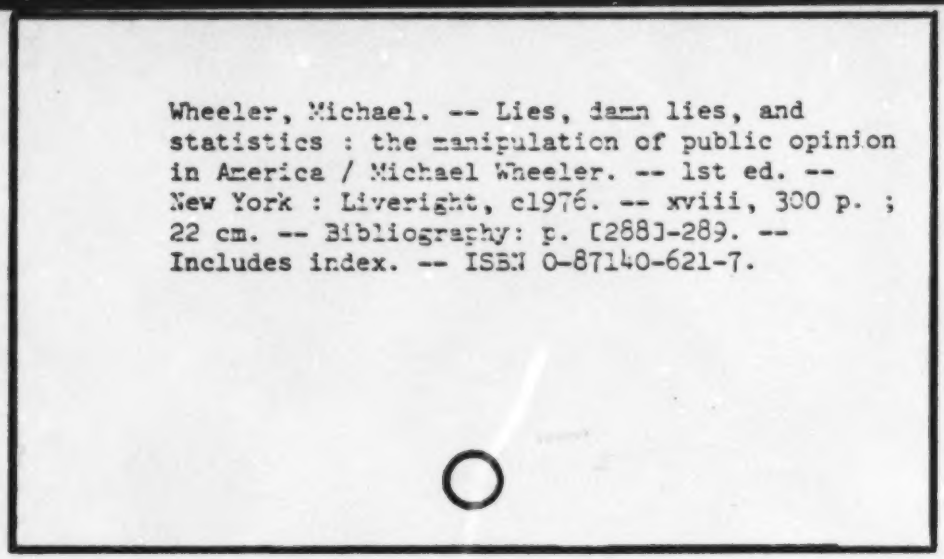

Wheeler, Michael. -- Lies, damn lies, and statistics : the manipulation of public opinion in America / Michael Wheeler. -- 1st ed. -- New York : Liveright, c1976. -- xviii, 300 p. ; 22 cm. -- Bibliography: p. [288]-289. -- Includes index. -- ISBN 0-87140-621-7.

Figure 5

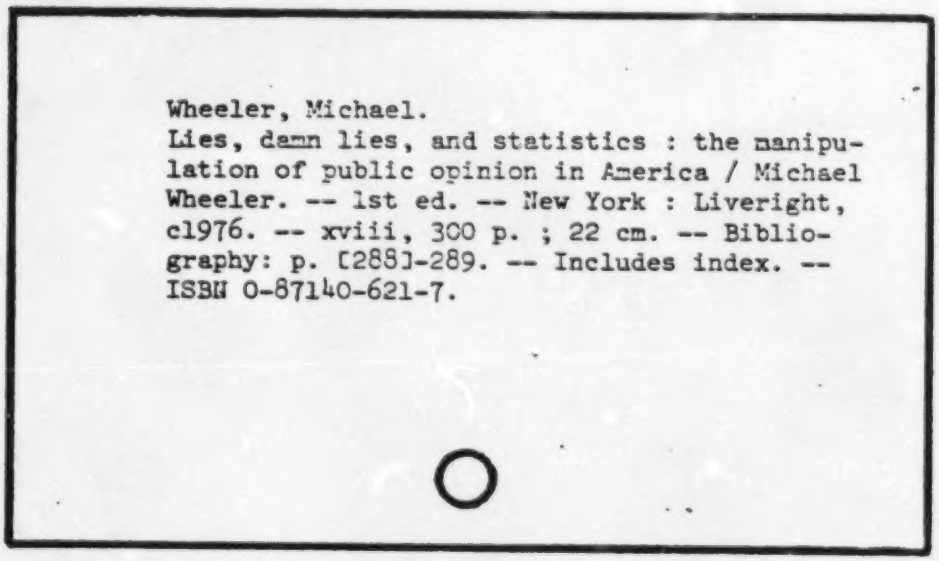
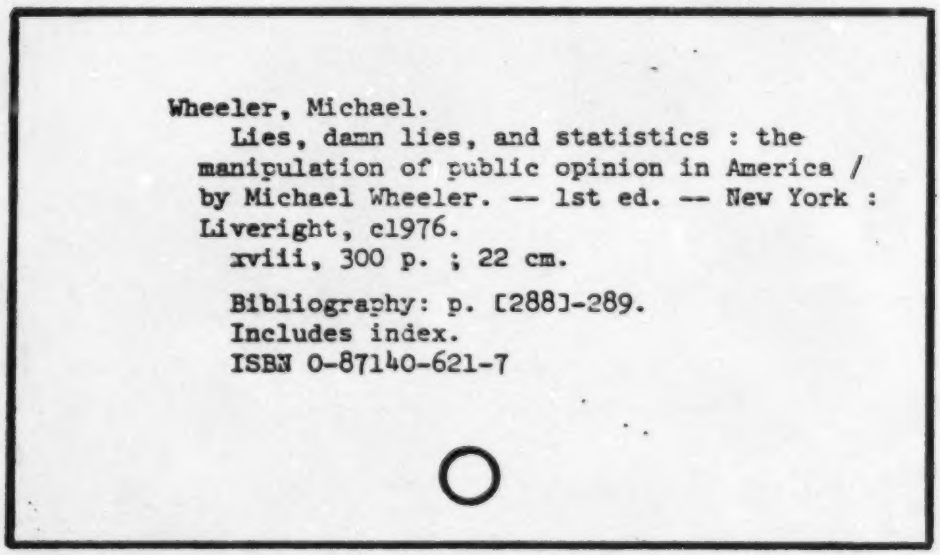

Wheeler, Michael.
Lies, damn lies, and statistics : the manipulation of public opinion in America / Michael Wheeler. -- 1st ed. -- New York : Liveright, c1976. -- xviii, 300 p. ; 22 cm. -- Bibliography: p. [288]-289. -- Includes index. -- ISBN 0-87140-621-7.

Figure 6


Wheeler, Michael.
Lies, damn lies, and statistics : the manipulation of public opinion in America / by Michael Wheeler. -- 1st ed. -- New York : Liveright, c1976.
xviii, 300 p. ; 22 cm.
Bibliography: p. [288]-289.
Includes index.
ISBN 0-87140-621-7

This variety of possible description formats prohibits the Code from using examples which follow the punctuation requirements of only 1 format. One illustration of how this creats a problem appears in note examples in AACR2. Virtually no note examples in the Code end with any mark of punctuation. This is not intended to imply by example that a note should not, or cannot, be punctuated at its end. The lack of punctuation occurs because the traditional multiple paragraph format would utilize a period after each sentence in a note while the latter 2 formats would utilize a space, long dash, space after each note except the last. The punctuation of the latter formats is specifically provided in AACR2 but the punctuation of the traditional format is not specified in the Code. For the traditional format AACR2 merely instructs the cataloger to start a new paragraph. Thus the punctuation requirement passes by default to the University of Chicago Press Manual of Style. The Manual of Style instructs that all declarative and imparative sentences must end with a period. Without a clear understanding of points presented in various parts of the Code and their interrelationship, a cataloger could easily create a faulty record. This is particularily true when examples to rules are hurriedly consulted rather than reading the text of rules.

ORGANIZATION. An examination of the Table of Contents in AACR2 will reveal that the organization of the Code is quite different from that of its predecessors. AACR1 had rules for entries and headings located at the beginning of the Code followed by rules for the descriptive cataloging of monographs, serials, incunabula and reproductions. Rules for the cataloging of non-book materials were located at the end of that Code. AACR2 has been arranged to reflect the order of operations it is believed a cataloger follows in preparing a catalog record - description of the item, identification of access points, creation of the headings for the chosen access points, and creation of references for the heading.

One major change in the rules for the description of documents is the inclusion of a chapter, (Chapter 1), which provides general rules for the description of all forms of materials. A cataloger must use the rules in Chapter 1 which apply to the document in hand and then supplement these rules with rules from other appropriate chapters which apply specifically to the format of that item. In order to keep the length of the Code to a minimum the rules in Chapter 1 have not been repeated in later chapters. Thus, if a particular type of material does not require a specific rule unique to that type of material AACR2 will only provide a reference to the appropriate rule in Chapter 1. Many will be the time that a cataloger simply has to guess when consulting the Code whether the rule needed is one of a general or special nature only to find that the guess was wrong and consult the other alternative location.

Chapters 2 through 10 deal with the description of various formats of materials. Materials are grouped into chapters based upon some common feature or characteristic they possess in common. This grouping of material differs somewhat from the arrangement one may be familiar with in previous codes. The 1967 text of AACR1 had the rules for motion pictures and filmstrips treated together in one chapter. AACR2 has the rules for motion pictures and videorecordings located together in Chapter 7 and the rules for filmstrips located in Chapter 8 with other types of graphic materials. There are times in which the co-location of formats of materials is somewhat tenuous. The characteristics of filmstrips and motion pictures, and the functions of their contributors, often is very similar while the relationship of filmstrips to other forms of graphic materials such as flash cards, study prints, radiographs and technical drawings is rather dissimilar. Thus the rules don't always seem to "fit" properly. AACR1 Chapter 12 Revised[10] had all types of audiovisual materials, other than sound recordings, in one chapter. AACR2 redistributes these materials among Chapters 7 (Motion Pictures and Video recordings), 8 (Graphic Materials), and 10 (Three-Dimensional Artefacts and Realia). A new feature of AACR2 is the addition of a chapter, (Chapter 9), for the descriptive cataloging of machine-readable data files. Chapters 11 (Microforms) and 12 (Serials) can be considered to be chapters of somewhat universal applicability. The characteristics of seriality or microreproduction can be applied to many different forms of materials. One can have a printed serial, a serial sound recording or a slide set which is a serial. Likewise one can have monographs, cartographic materials, scores, etc. in microformat reproductions. A cataloger dealing with these specific forms in AACR2 must use a combination of the general rules for description, (Chapter 1), the chapter for the type of material in hand, and the appropriate chapter of universal applicatility. There are no chapters numbered 14 to 20 at present. This number range was intentionally left vacant to permit future code revisers to expand the rules for description.

Chapter 21 deals with the identification of access points for documents. At one point in the development of the Code consideration was given to abandoning the principle of main entry as the foundation of the rules for access points. This approach was not adopted and the traditional concept of main entry heading still applies in AACR2. This action was in spite of the fact that, in those libraries today which have multiple access point catalogs, and this is most libraries, the principle of main entry heading is somewhat mute. Chapters 22 to 25 provide rules for the selection and construction of personal name, corporate name, geographic name, and uniform title headings for access points chosen. Chapter 26 provides rules for the selection of reference structures for the headings constructed in Chapters 22-25.

DESCRIPTION AREAS. AACR2 is the first U. S. cataloging code to take the elements of the description and not only give each element a name but also a number. The various areas of a description, their names and numbers, are as follows:

Number	Name
1	Title and Statement of Responsibility Area
2	Edition Area
3	Material (or Type of Publication) Specific Details Area
4	Publication, Distribution, etc. Area (formerly known as the Imprint)
5	Physical Description Area (formerly known as the Collation)
6	Series Area
7	Notes Area
8	Standard Number and Terms of Availability Area

Area 1 uses the term "Statement of Responsibility" rather than the more book oriented term "Statement of Authorship" used in previous codes. Area 3 does not at present have wide applicability. The use of this Area is limited to the cataloging of cartographic materials, (Chapter 3), and Serials, (Chapter 12). In cataloging cartographic materials Area 3 is termed the "Mathematical Data Area" and is used to record scale, projection, and coordinates. The use of this area is illustrated in Figure 7. When cataloging serials Area 3 is termed the "Numeric and/or Alphabetic, Chronological or other Designation Area" and is used to record the various numbers associated with serials. Figure 8 is an example of the use of Area 3 for serials. The other description areas are similar to elements present in previous cataloging codes although "book" terms such as "imprint" and "collation" have been made more generic.

RULE NUMBERING. One of the principal uses of the area numbers mentioned above is to provide the ability to apply a mnemonic structure to the numbering of the rules in AACR2. This mnemonic structure facilitates the rapid reference from one descriptive cataloging chapter to another. This is particularly useful when referring from Chapter 1 to other descriptive chapters and when refering to several chapters looking for examples which illustrate a solution to a particular problem.

Figure 7

Pittsburgh east quadrangle [map] / mapped, edited and published by the Geological Survey, -- Scale 1:24,000 ; Polyconic proj. (W 80°--W 79°52'30"/N 40°30'--N 40°22'30"). -- Washington : The Survey, 1960 (1969 printing).
1 map section : col., mounted ; 58 x 44 cm.
-- (7.5 minute series, topographic)

"Revisions shown in purple compiled from serial photographs taken 1969."
AMS 5064 IV NW-Series V831.

I. United States. Geological Survey.

Figure 8

Mystery. -- Vol. 1, no. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1980)-
. -- Los Angeles : Mystery, 1980-
v. : ill. ; 28 cm.

Six bi-monthly issues.
Library has: Vol. 1, no. 3 (June/July 1980)-

In AACR1 the order of the rules was strictly a numerical one - from Rule 1 in Chapter 1 to Rule 272 in Chapter 15. Rule 142E2, for example, had little if any, meaning implied by its number. It simply provided an address for the rule within the rule number sequence.

The structure and order of rule numbers in Chapters 1 to 12 of AACR2 is quite different however. For AACR2 rule numbers, 2.2B1 is a typical AACR2 rule number, the number to the left of a decimal point indicates the chapter from which the rule originates thus indicating the type of the material being described. The first number to the right of the decimal point indicates the description area which the rule is addressing. Thus Rule 2.5 deals with the Physical description of books, Rule 6.5 with the physical description of sound recordings, and Rule 8.5 with the physical description of graphic materials. Following the numerical area indication an alphabetic letter often appears. This alphabetical sequencing gives the Code a means of providing multiple rules for a particular descriptive area. The alphabetical symbols are mnemonic within an area further facilitating the rapid finding of rules. Thus Rules 2.5D, 6.5D and 8.5D all deal with the dimensions of an item being described. If additional rules are required to expand a rule represented by an alphabetical character AACR2 uses a number sequence to the right of the letter. This number sequence is not mnemonic. Accordingly various rules for the dimensions of a printed monograph (2.5D) are numbered 2.5D1, 2.5D2, 2.5D3, etc.

The rule number structure for chapters 13, and 21 to 26 utilizes an arrangement in which the number to the left of the decimal point indicates the chapter from which the rule originates. Rules 13.5A, 21.7C, 22.17D and 26.4A1 illustrate typical numbers from these chapters. All numbers to the right of the decimal are part of a sequential rule number order within the chapter. Alphabetical designations to the right of numbers on the right side of the decimal point are used to divide basic rules. The numbering scheme in Chapters 13, 21-26 is not mnemonic.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BIBLIOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION. The publication of AACR1 Chapter 6[11] in 1974 introduced American librarianship to its first set of cataloging rules which utilized International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD). In 1975 AACR1 Chapter 12 Revised expanded the use of the ISBD format by utilizing it in the cataloging of all audiovisual materials except sound recordings. This new framework of bibliographic description and its unusual punctuation was not greeted with favor in the United States by some librarians. Many librarians had learned their cataloging under earlier codes in which the use of punctuation at times resembled fine art. Those librarians, who in the past 7 years had hoped that their ignoring this new style long enough would cause it to just go away, will be sadly disappointed when they examine AACR2.

The new Code utilizes the ISBD framework and punctuation for the description of all formats of materials, not just monographs and audiovisual materials. AACR2 has used ISBD (General)[12] as its guide for the sequence and punctuation of the various elements of a description. Those chapters which deal with bibliographic description in AACR2 have, or will have in the future, specific ISBDs to which they will be closely related. Catalogers may find that a reference to these ISBDs, or ISBD(G), can provide additional guidance when using AACR2.

The total integration of the ISBD structure into AACR2 bibliographical descriptions is further emphasized by the use of ISBD elements and their punctuation in more components of a description than in the past. Statements of responsibility are now used in areas other than just Area 1 (Title and Statement of Responsibility Area). AACR2 catalogers now may use a statement of responsibility in the Edition Area, the Series Area, and even in some notes. The use of parallel titles has been similarily expanded. In the past only a title proper was permitted to have a parallel title. Now provision exists for series statement parallel titles, and even parallel titles within contents notes. These are but two examples of how the ISBD framework and punctuation is incorporated throughout a description. AACR2 calls for the use of the ISBD framework and punctuation in the structure of notes whenever possible. The use of the order of elements of the Physical Description Area from a specific chapter is used when describing that type of material in an accompanying materials statement.

SOURCES OF CATALOGING INFORMATION. Catalogers who used AACR1 and its predecessors to descriptively catalog monographs were required to obtain all cataloging data for the body of the card (title through date elements) from the title page or its equivalent. Any information not supplied from that source had to be placed in brackets. In 1974 cataloging created by the Library of Congress appeared not only with the ISBD framework and punctuation but also with a greatly reduced frequency of bracket use - especially with dates. This reduced use of brackets was due to the introduction of "Primary Sources of Information" in AACR1 Chapter 6. The use of these "Primary Sources" allowed catalogers to vary the sources of information from which data for different descriptive elements could be obtained without requiring it to be placed in brackets. This use of "Primary Sources" was continued in AACR1 Chapter 12 Revised.

AACR2 continues the use of these "Primary Information Sources" in the form of "Prescribed Sources of Information" in Chapters 2 through 12. Because data elements vary in their most common locations from one form of document to another the "Prescribed Sources of Information" vary also. Thus the "Prescribed Source of Information" for the title element for printed monographs, (Chapter 2), is the title page; for graphic materials, (Chapter 8), the source for title element is the entire item itself and for realia, (Chapter 10), the source of title

information includes not only the item itself but also any accompanying material and the container in which the item was issued. This use of the "Prescribed Sources of Information" greatly reduces the use of brackets but also requires increased diligence on the part of a cataloger to ensure that the proper sources were consulted for the type of material in hand.

GENERAL MATERIAL DESIGNATION. AACR2 presents in Chapter 1, (Rule 1.1C), a descriptive element which allows a cataloger to designate, after the title proper, the type of material being cataloged. This General Material Designation, (GMD), is closely related to the "Medium Designator" introduced in AACR1 Chapter 12 Revised and earlier codes.

Examination of the GMD list in the Code reveals one of the few instances in which the formulators of the Code were not able to achieve agreement. Instead of just one list of GMDs AACR2 provides two - List 1 for British cataloging agencies and List 2 for North American cataloging agencies. An examination of the British list reveals that the GMD terms are far more generic in nature than are the terms in List 2. When British libraries use the generic term "graphic" North American libraries use either "art original", "chart", "filmstrip", "flashboard", "picture", "slide", "technical drawing" or "transparency". Likewise when North American libraries use the terms "diorama", "game", "microscope slide", "model", or "realia" British libraries use the generic term "object". Due to this failure to agree on a GMD list all examples the rules which have GMDs do not give the actual GMD term but rather just [GMD]. It should be noted that the specific terms used as GMDs in American libraries does not always correspond exactly with terms used in Area 5B - Extent of Item element. In Area 5B one sometimes uses a term which corresponds exactly with the GMD, e.g., "filmstrip", and at other times will not, i.e., the GMD for a jigsaw puzzle is "Game" but the extent of item term used be "Jigsaw puzzle." In these instances catalogers might wish for the day in which they would be allowed to use the more general British list.

Although terms used as GMDs are often very similar to those used as Medium Designators in AACR1 they are far more comprehensive in scope and are applied somewhat differently. AACR1 provided Medium Designators only for audiovisual materials while AACR2 provides GMDs for all types of materials. Therefore in AACR2, even printed monographs can utilize a GMD "text". AACR1 required that when a form of material being cataloged had a Medium Designator available that designator had to be used. AACR2 provides for the use of GMDs as an "optional addition" so that libraries can selectively choose which GMDs to use - either all, some, or none. The Library of Congress reported on which GMDs they will be, won't be, would be using, and those about which use is still undecided in Cataloging Service Bulletin No. 10.[13] It should be also be pointed out in passing that the location of the GMD in AACR2 is different from that of AACR1 Medium Designators. AACR1 Medium Designators were placed at the end of the entire title while GMDs are located between the "title proper" and "other title information."

EXAMPLES

Examples used in AACR2 have several very positive aspects over the examples present in AACR1. There has been an obvious effort in the new Code to include examples which have women as authors, illustrators, etc. There has also been an effort made to provide examples of materials in formats other than just books. One helpful feature in AACR2 is the use of works as examples, especially in chapters 21 through 25, which were also used as examples in AACR1. Thus when a cataloger notices that work, or name, used as an example in both Codes results has a different outcome or appearance it can serve as a very good indication that the rule itself probably has changed.

A cataloger using AACR2 is cautioned that AACR2 specifically states that the examples in the text are "illustrative and not prescriptive".[14] The Code further cautions that one should not treat the form in which the notes are presented as instructions unless it is so stated in an accompanying rule.

While this caution is correct one may find that there are instances in which one must rely upon the form of an example for guidance. This is particularly true for novice catalogers who do not have the wealth of knowledge that an experienced cataloger possesses. This wealth of knowledge includes a knowledge of the information industry, and most importantly, a knowledge of the guidelines and "rules of thumb" suggestions provided by previous cataloging codes. Although AACR2 does provide many examples it does seem that in some instances the number or quality of examples is particularly lacking.

The deficiency in examples is particularly apparent in the Note Area. One example of this deficiency occurs with the descriptive cataloging of filmstrips and slides. Cataloging this type of material frequently necessitates a cataloger to make a note as to whether accompanying sound is designed for manual advance, automatic advance, or both. This is perhaps one of the most frequently used notes in the cataloging of audiovisual materials but AACR2 does not have one example of this note.

A lack of sufficient examples also occurs in the accompanying materials statement. This statement was punctuated in AACR1 Chapters 6 and 12 Revised by an ampersand. When a document had more than 1 accompanying material the items were separated in the statement by commas. AACR2 now requires that the symbol preceeding the accompanying materials statement (now a plus sign) be placed before each type of accompanying material rather than just once at the beginning of the statement. Nowhere in AACR2 is this explicitly stated. It is probably quite reasonable to assume that many catalogers would continue to follow the punctuation pattern of AACR1 lacking a specific statement in AACR2 to the contrary. There is however one example of a multiple accompanying materials statement appearing in AACR2 - but it unfortunately appears in a chapter

that the average cataloger will probably consult infrequently - Chapter 9 (Machine Readable Data Files). Even if one did find this one example of multiple accompanying materials the cataloger could not be sure whether it is required because examples are "only illustrative not prescriptive" and no rule specifically provides for the punctuation illustrated. Only a reference to ISBD(G) and its statement on this issue would reinforce the belief that the example format is correct.

Another example of the inadequacy of instructions which may have to be overcome by a reliance upon examples occurs in Rule 6.4F1. This rule instructs the cataloger to record dates for sound recordings as instructed in Rule 1.4F. Two of the expansions of 1.4F, Rules 1.4F5 and 1.4F6, deal with the assignment of copyright dates. No rule specifically instructs a cataloger on how to construct a copyright date although Rules 1.4F5, 1.4F6 have examples of copyright dates, i.e., with a lowercase "c" before the date. This lack of instructions is somewhat offset by the fact that the copyright date examples in AACR2 do conform with the traditional way these dates have been recorded in earlier codes. This lack of instructions in AACR2 is often so subtle that many catalogers might never have noticed that instructions were in fact lacking.

This problem with copyright dates may only be a minor matter when cataloging books but it is somewhat more of a problem when cataloging sound recordings. It was mentioned above that Rule 6.4F1 refers the cataloger to the general rule for dates in Chapter 1. AACR1 Chapter 14 Revised[15] utilized a "p" in recording the copyright date for a sound recording, e.g., p1874. AACR2 makes no mention of using either a "c" or a "p" but gives examples in Chapter 1 with only "c" being used. A sound recording cataloger is thus left in a quandary between AACR2 non-sound recording examples and previous code practice for sound recordings a statement recently issued by the Library of Congress[16] has indicated that only a "c" is to be used in recording copyright dates even in the case of sound recordings thus resolving another AACR2 shortcoming.

These are but a few instances in which the examples, or the instructions, in AACR2 are somewhat deficient. Many times the experienced cataloger may not even notice the lack of instructions but many cataloging students and novice catalogers can be expected to have problems with the lack of instructions in the Code for some time. It is somewhat unfortunate that, after having spent years in developing a code, others, such as the Library of Congress, must be relied upon to define and expand how a rule is to be applied or what it actually means.

The examples provided in Chapter 21 (Access Points) follow a policy used throughout AACR2 of developmental examples, i.e., no example will be supplied in a form which has not already been introduced in the text by a previous rule. Therefore the examples in Chapter 21 are not constructed in correct heading form. One example of this occurs in Rule 21.37A. It

indicates that the main entry heading for the Book of Isaiah should be the title. Many novice catalogers, and even some experienced catalogers, might be inclined to believe that this indicates that "Book of Isaiah" should be a title main entry heading. Actually the rule only indicates that "a title" will be the main entry - the appropriate title - which in this case would be the uniform title for the Bible. This same developmental example technique is followed in Chapters 22 through 25. When a name of a person is given in Chapter 22 is not always complete because additions to the name may be added under provisions of a rule in a later part of the chapter dealing with additions to names.

REPRODUCTIONS. One consistent principle followed in AACR2 is that the item in hand is the item to be described. This principle has led to some situations in which a faithful adherence to the principle in the Code may result in a bibliographic record which, in the opinion of some catalogers, is less useful than it would have been had the principle not been applied. One particular area in which the application of this principle has caused considerable controversary in the past year is in the cataloging of microform reproductions of printed works. Since 1974 AACR1 catalogers have been instructed, when cataloging monograph reproductions of previously printed works, that the data for the reprint was to be recorded in the main description while information about the original publication of the item was placed in a note. The AACR1 approach in the cataloging of microform reproductions of previously published works was quite different. Here AACR1 required that the data for the reprint was to be provided in a note while information about the reproduction was given in the main description.

AACR2 has attempted to apply the principle regarding reproductions consistantly. Thus, whether the reproduction is in print format or in microformat, the data provided in the main description is that of the reprint with information about the original publication recorded in a note. This approach has been heavily criticized by microform catalogers. Arguments are raised that the essential information, that of dealing with the content and date of the item, is actually hidden in a note. This is an additional problem for a microformat which cannot be as easily scanned as can a print reproduction. The debate on this issue has been so intensive that the Library of Congress, the National Agricultural Library and the National Library of Medicine, at the request of the Association of Research Libraries, have recently deferred the implementation of the AACR2 microreproduction policy pending a definitive decision on this issue.[17]

CONCLUSIONS. The conditions and operational foundations inherent in AACR2 which have been presented here are but a few of the more important ones that have been identified through the use and teaching of the Code

over the past 30 months. They by no means represent all the issues which are important in the proper use of the Code. The problems which have been presented, while troublesome and annoying, are in no way an indication that the Code is in any way seriously flawed or is rampant with errors and inconsistancies. On the whole AACR2 is perhaps the easiest Code to teach and learn that American librarians have ever had.

While one may decry the need to learn a new code and "unlearn" an old one the improvements in it are, overall, well worth the effort. Whenever one is tempted to assert that AACR2 is more complicated to use than its predecessors one merely needs to select a microform, a filmstrip, a game, and a sound recording and attempt to catalog them using AACR1 and its revised chapters. It is at that point that the improvements in the Code become readily apparent. It is strange how, in even a short period of time, one forgets all the problems and inconcistancies that were in AACR1 and its forerunners and become nostalgic about the virtures of AACR1. While the AACR2 changes in choice of access points are at time troublesome to implement, especially in the case of corporate responsibility, for libraries with multiple access point catalogs the overall effect is rather negligible, if any. The changes in the form and choice of headings in AACR2 are indeed few in number but many in the number of headings they affect. This number of headings which would require change is greatly reduced by the implementation of the Library of Congress's interpretations and modifications to the Code issued over the past two years. Perhaps it is on this point where the shortcomings of the Code are most noticeable - while an excellent Code overall in clarity, form of presentation, and as a set of rules viewed in the abstract - it is in operationally unsound when libraries have to resort to "interpretations" "modifications" and other instances of not following the Code or of having to restate what it was that AACR2 intended to state. One must ask whether it does any good to issue a set of rules which follow principles which are so out of line with reality that both the principles and the rules must be contradicted and restated in order for the Code to be useable. There in fact may lie the principle problem with AACR2 - the failure to be a set of rules which, as written, are operationally and economically usable in libraries today.

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